Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 052698 ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:DRMORAN/SEPALMER, JR:BAM APPROVED BY NEA/RA:SEPALMER, JR. IO/OIC:JMGARNER (INFO) AID/TECH/HRST:WJRICHTER(SUB)

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OCON, CENTO, OTRA

SUBJECT: CENTO ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING

REFS: (A) ISLAMABAD 2192; (B) STATE 31605

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

- 1. US REP PALMER, ADVISOR RICHTER ETA RAWALPINDI THURSDAY MARCH 17 AT 0920 ON PK 300. (THIS ASSUMES PALMER CAN SECURE SEAT ON MARCH 16/17 PAN AM 02 TEHRAN-KARACHI FLIGHT, WHICH WAS FULLY BOOKED WHEN WE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION OF CONFERENCE DATES.)
- 2. PALMER PLEASED TO ACCEPT CONSTABLE'S OFFER OF HOSPITALITY. PALMER ETD IS 2100 MARCH 21 ON PK 309. RICHTER ACCEPTS OFFER OF QUARTERS AT AID GUESTHOUSE.

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- 3. EMBASSY ANKARA WILL PROVIDE TRAVEL AND QUARTERING DATA FOR MCDONNELL.
- 4. REF B INCLUDED, AT EMBASSY ISLAMABAD'S REQUEST, NAME OF GORDON POWERS IN DELEGATE LIST. REF A SUGGESTS INCLUSION OF TERESITA SHAFFER. SHOULD EMBASSY DEEM SHAFFER MORE APPROPRIATE THAN POWERS, PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.

- 5. MARCH 17 AFTERNOON SESSION WITH DSYG(E), MEMBERS OF USDEL AND PERTINENT MISSION OFFICERS WOULD BE USEFUL.
- 6. PLEASE NOTIFY WORLD FOOD REP. BARNSDALE, WHEN PALMER WOULD LIKE TO SEE IF CENTO OBLIGATIONS PERMIT.

END UNCLASSIFIED

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7. REVIEW OF FEASIBILITY STUDY HAS CONVINCED AID IT CANNOT SUPPORT US DOL 500,000 CONTRIBUTION TO UPGRADING OF CENTO CIVILIAN MICROWAVE SYSTEM. AID AND WE HAVE DEVELOPED AN ALTERNATIVE OFFER. WE WANT TO TRY TO DEFUSE PAKISTANI REACTION TO WITHDRAWAL OF CONDITIONAL MICROWAVE OFFER, AND TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON THIS ISSUE DURING ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING. THUS EMBASSY PLEASE SEEK APPOINTMENT(S) WITH APPROPRIATE POLICY LEVEL GOP OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS ISSUE, PREFERABLY MORNING MARCH 18. MEANWHILE, PLEASE DO NOT DISCUSS WITH PAKISTANI OR NON-US CENTO OFFICIALS. VANCE

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TAGS: OCON, OTRA, CENTO To: ISLAMABAD

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